

Barracks Remains
Town of Frederica, St. Simons Island,
Glynn County, Georgia

HABS No.
GA 2146

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
120 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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BARRACKS REMAINS

Street Address or Location: Town of Frederica, St. Simons Island,
Glynn County, Georgia

Present Owner: National Park Service, Box 367,
St. Simons, Georgia

Brief Statement of
Significance: This building served as barracks for
General Oglethorpe's regiment during
the fight of the English Colonies against
the Spanish. The barracks also used
as a hospital and as a prison for Spanish
soldiers.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original owner: Trustees of the Colony of Georgia
2. Date of erection: 1741-1742

B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: Part of the fort and town of Frederica, which was British base of operations against the Spanish in Florida during the War of Jenkins' Ear (1739-1748) and target of the Spanish expedition into Georgia in 1742. The barracks housed the regiment of General Oglethorpe and were used as a hospital and as a prison for Spanish soldiers. The frontier troublemaker Christian Preber was confined here. (See A. C. Manucy, "Fort Frederica Historic Site Report" (NPS 1945), pp. 98-99, 162.)

Prepared by _____ Date May, 1958
Albert C. Manucy, Historian, NPS

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This is the largest building at Frederica. Its tower is the only two-story structure still standing.
2. Condition of fabric: Ruinous. All but the tower is below grade.

B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: Ninety-four feet, six inches
(approximately square about a center court)
2. Foundations: Poured tabby
3. Wall construction: Poured tabby

4. Chimneys: Probably had six, four of brick above "H" fireplaces off each corner, and two of tabby or brick.

5. Openings:

a. Doorways and doors: No evidence, except two large doorways in tower.

b. Windows and shutters: No evidence

6. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: No evidence, except roof almost flat in tower. Tower is castellated top.

b. Cornice, eaves: No evidence

c. Dormers: No evidence

C. Technical Description of Interiors:

1. Floor plans: One-story structure with two-story tower. Square plan (94'-6") with center courtyard, each side 18' to 19' across. Square room in each corner. Rooms (16' x 58') on each side, except north, where tower in middle breaks the side into three approximately equal square rooms.

2. Stairways: No evidence

3. Flooring: Poured tabby

4. Wall and ceiling finish: Shell lime plaster.

5. Doorways and doors: No evidence

6. Trim: No evidence

7. Hardware: Nails, spikes and hinges

8. Lighting: No evidence

9. Heating: Four "H" fireplaces, one in each corner room.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: Four sides face compass points, with the tower on the north side. North side of town of Frederica, on old Indian field, flat, 40 acres.

2. Enclosures: Small (12' x 12') room (?) projecting from west wall with 1'-1" poured tabby foundation walls. Drain from well in courtyard ran into this space. Its use is unknown.

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